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VIKING BIOLOGY EXPERIMENTS AND THE MARTIAN SOIL

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The Viking Biology Experiments (VBE) are the most informative database on the wet chemistry and reactivity of the Martian soil available today. The simulation and chemical interpretation of their results have given us valuable hints towards the characterization of the soils' mineralogy, adsorption properties, pH and redox. The characterization of Mars soil on the basis of ten years of LR and other VBE simulations will be reviewed.